

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Agriculture	2018
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council	1306

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	07/14/2016	07/14/2018	

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No		

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
16 U.S.C. 2105, AMEND.	10/28/1990	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports 1

16b. Report Date Report Title

12/31/2017	2017 National Urban and Community Forestry Annual Accomplishment / Recommendation Report
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Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 2 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
Finalize 2019 Grant Categories, updates on past grants, presentations on National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program: Grant Impact Analysis, meet with representative groups, finalize annual accomplishment report and recommendations. Discuss the Action Plan's emphasis areas for the next two years. Conduct Public Listening Session on 11/16 after Partner's conference.	11/13/2017	11/13/2017
Virtual Meeting: To discuss 2019 Grant proposals, listen to presentations on grants in progress, format annual accomplishment report. Prepare for Summer meeting location. Receive updates from other urban and community forestry groups. Discussed successful listening session at Fall Partner's Conference and agree to hold again next year. Discussed Annual Accomplishment report submitted to the Secretary	03/20/2018	03/20/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

Current FY **Next FY**

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$126,729.00	\$133,700.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$26,546.00	\$50,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$3,101.00	\$10,000.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$6,306.00	\$6,500.00
18d. Total	\$162,682.00	\$200,200.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	1.25	1.25

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Council's meetings this fiscal year focused on their legislatively mandated duties by developing the categories for the Forest Service's Challenge Cost-Share Program (CCS) and recommending proposals to the Forest Service to consider in making their award decision; developing the Annual Accomplishment/Recommendation Report to the Secretary of Agriculture, finalizing their work plan and assignments targeting goals in the public's National Ten-Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan, (Action Plan), and considerable listening and discussion with the public on emerging issues/opportunities in urban and community forestry. Council members attended the National Partners in Community Forestry Conference and met with their representative groups on the Council, other Federal Agencies, and entities working in community and urban forestry. The Council incorporates the public's feedback into their work plan and validate them in the accomplishment/recommendation report and grant categories. Last year they held a successful special listening session for the meeting participants that was well received and requested to be held again at next years conference. Comments were addressed and will be reported out at that time. The Council has a home page on the Forest Service website <http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf/nucfac.shtml> The site contains background information, grant announcements about the Council as well as their accomplishment reports and recommendations.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Council is made up of 15 members whose positions are described very specifically in the enabling legislation, membership consists of qualified candidates representing: State government; County government; City/Town government; forest products, nursery, or related industries; urban forestry, landscape, and design consultants; State forestry agencies or equivalent State agencies; professional renewable natural resource or arboricultural society; Extension Service; USDA Forest Service; a non-officer or employee

of any governmental body representing a population of less than 50,000 as of the most recent census who has expertise and has been active in urban and community forestry; non-officer or employee of any government body representing a population of more than 50,000 as of the most recent census who has expertise and has been active in urban and community forestry; two members representing national non-profit forestry and conservation citizen organizations; and two members from academic institutions with an expertise in urban and community forestry activities. The Council positions are also balanced geographically and demographically to reflect comprehensive viewpoints from around the country and the country's diverse populations.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Council presently meets about three times annually with at least one meeting held virtually. However this year the Council had one face-to-face meeting and one virtual, due to the Charter expiring. Meetings will tentatively continue to be scheduled in winter, summer, and fall, with the winter meeting being virtual. The Council is strategically planning future meetings with other related urban forestry stakeholders and the public to address items in the Action Plan and emerging urban forestry issues and opportunities. The Council will reduced its meeting costs by: reducing the face to face meetings, reducing the meeting days from three to one and one half days; and using Federal meeting space or meeting space at reduced costs. The Council continues to steward accomplishments identified in the public's Action Plan, and continues to implement their Strategic Plan. The Council current recommendations are being addressed by the Forest Service.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

There is no other broad-based group within the USDA, the Forest Service, or elsewhere that provides outreach to and represents urban and rural community forestry. The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council continues to provide input that will focus and coordinate current and future efforts with the National Urban and Community Forestry Program, USDA, and applicable Federal agencies. The Council will continue to promote the economic, social (public health), and environmental benefits, that urban and community forests provide communities, which builds community sustainability and resiliency through proper management of this green infrastructure.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

NUCFAC met twice in FY2018 and made recommendations. The Charter expired July 14, 2018 and is pending Secretary's approval for renewal. The past two nomination slates are pending the Secretary's approval. Additional nominations are planned for FY2018. Presently the Council is administratively inactive. When active, under the terms of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act, (iii) CONTINUATION: Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term of the member's predecessor shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term. *A member may serve after the expiration of the member's term until the member's successor has taken office.*

Designated Federal Officer

Lauren Marshall National Urban Forestry Program Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Abdollahi, Kamran	01/01/2010	12/31/2019	Program Leader and Graduate Director Urban Forestry Program	Representative Member
Davis, Sara	01/01/2011	12/31/2019	Program Manager Million Tree Initiative	Representative Member
Firehock, Karen	01/01/2015	12/31/2019	Prof. Univ of VA	Representative Member
Goetz, Steve	01/01/2011	12/31/2019	President, The Pacific Resources Group	Representative Member
Hirami, Patti	01/01/2013	12/31/2019	Acting Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Hubbard, William	01/01/2012	12/31/2019	S. Regional Extension Forester, Cooperative Extension	Representative Member
Kavanagh, Liam	01/01/2010	12/31/2019	Executive Board Member City Parks Alliance	Representative Member
Ortega, Lisa	01/01/2013	12/31/2019	Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator	Representative Member
Robinson, Claire	01/01/2014	12/31/2019	Managing Director, National Metropolitan Alliance	Representative Member
Ruano, Robert	01/01/2010	12/31/2019	President Ecostrata Services, Inc.	Representative Member
SuZUKovich III, Eli	01/01/2015	12/31/2019	Professor, Urban Ecology Advisory NW Univ. American Indian Center of Chicago	Representative Member
Warriner, Walt	01/01/2011	12/31/2019	Consulting Arborist	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 12

Narrative Description

NUCFAC is a congressionally designated advisory council to the Secretary of Agriculture on urban forestry and related issues. NUCFAC synthesizes the full spectrum of views into a consistent vision as a foundation for practical policy. NUCFAC works in partnership with the Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program, a cooperative program of the USDA Forest Service that focuses on the stewardship of natural resources where more than 80% of Americans live. Working with the state forestry agencies, the UCF program provides technical, financial, research and educational services to local government, nonprofit organizations, community groups, educational institutions, and tribal governments. In FY2017, the UCF program served more than 200,000,000 Americans in more than 7,800 communities of all sizes across the United States, about a third of which were rural communities. UCF funds are leveraged at least 2:1, often exceeding this ratio,

by state forestry agencies and other partners. By synthesizing stakeholder views, NUCFAC assists the USDA Forest Service in ensuring the UCF program is delivered efficiently effectively and with integrity and focus on customer service (Strategic Goal 1). In addition, by stewarding the Public's National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan and recommending workforce, economic development, and applied research projects for funding through the Forest Service's National Urban Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant program, NUCFAC is helping to facilitate rural prosperity and economic development (Strategic Goal 4), and strengthening the stewardship of private lands through technology and research (Strategic Goal 5).

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

There is no other broad-based group within the USDA, the Forest Service, or elsewhere that is equipped to steward the public's National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action plan, which guides investment of public and private dollars in the development and management of our nation's urban and community forests. The return on these investments help sustain and build resilient communities for the public's health and well-being.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

Over \$10,000,000
Cost Savings Other



Cost Savings Comments

Council members serve without compensation for their time. In FY 2018, the non-Federal members contributed over 2000 hours in volunteer hours due to stewarding and implementing portions of the National Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan. This is equivalent to 1.25 FTE's valued at \$188,856, based on volunteer time prior to the Charter expiring. Projected numbers for the next year are expected to be higher.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

237

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council is addressing the goals and objectives in the 2016-2026 National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan. Four national grant recommendations were made and accepted in 2018. Awards addressed: Planting, Inventory, and Analysis for Forest and Environmental Health to increase the understanding of, how urban planting, inventory, and analysis of our urban forest natural resources contributes to the economic, health, energy, ecological, and other critical benefits our urban forests provide communities and in improving human well-being: 1. Helping Urban Foresters and Diagnosticians by Optimizing A Molecular Toolkit to Provide Rapid Diagnosis of Thousand Cankers Disease. 2. Growing the Tribal Forestry Community Forestry Workforce in the across Tribal Nations. 3. Deploying Sensors on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for Community Forest Inventories and Condition. 4. National Assessment of Air Temperature Effects of Trees on Human Health and Comfort Three program related recommendations were made. Together, these results fuel the progress in accomplishing long-term goals, and implementation of key Council recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture. 1. Maximize the Secretary's ability to develop forestry jobs that support stewardship of the nation's community forests to realize their economic and ecological benefits. 2. Build healthier communities and address environmental inequity in underserved areas by increasing forest canopy in both rural and urban communities. 3. Coordinate the research agendas of federal agencies to expand our understanding of the benefits of trees and their contributions to increased investments in community forestry programs nationwide. The Council is implementing and stewarding changes to address the next ten years of our country's communities green infrastructure. Our country's urban and community forests are at the core of successful green infrastructure systems within communities. Through its network and outreach, the Council will assist the urban and rural community forestry

community of practice expand this cost effective approach in sustaining our communities during difficult economic, severe weather events, and societal conditions.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

85%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The Secretary and agency approve the grants recommended by the Council. Many of the recommendations are comprehensive and may take the agency several years to build the partnerships and capacity to fully implement the recommendation.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

10%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Many of the recommendations are comprehensive and may take the agency several years to build the partnerships and capacity to fully implement the recommendation.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Yes, 2018 Grant Recommendations: The Forest Service accepted the Council's recommendation and funded grants with the amount of funds available. The Council's grant category focus reflects the Forest Service's and Departments priorities. In 2017, the Agency funded an analysis looking at the impact of past NUCFAC grants, giving the Council feedback into the implementation of their previously selected grants.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other



Action Comments

Please note above response on how the agency reorganize priorities to address some of the Council's recommendations.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

Yes

What is the estimated <u>Number</u> of grants reviewed for approval	10
What is the estimated <u>Number</u> of grants recommended for approval	4
What is the estimated <u>Dollar Value</u> of grants recommended for approval	\$1,467,998

Grant Review Comments

The Council has refocused their criteria for the National Urban Forestry Challenge Cost Share program recommending larger awards for innovative projects that are national in scope and partner with national organizations to assist in the dissemination of the final products. The grant categories focus on the pressing issues that our country faces and through proper management and partnerships, our urban and community forests can address through their benefits they provide. This year's proposals covered identifying solutions that will address: Planting, Inventory, and Analysis for Forest and Environmental Health From: The National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan: Research Needs The Federal dollars request \$701,210, Total Match, \$766,788, Total Funds \$1,467,998. Grants: 1. Helping Urban Foresters and Diagnosticians by Optimizing A Molecular Toolkit to Provide Rapid Diagnosis of Thousand Cankers Disease, University of Tennessee 2. Growing a National Tribal Forestry Workforce, Ecotrust, 3. Deploying Sensors on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for Community Forest Inventory and Analysis, University of Colorado 4. National Assessment of Air Temperature Effects of Trees on Human Health and Comfort, RTI International This year's proposals covered identifying solutions that will address: Planting, Inventory, and Analysis for Forest and Environmental Health From: The National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan: Research NeedsThe Federal dollars request \$701,210, Total Match, \$766,788, Total Funds \$1,467,998.Grants: 1. "Helping Urban Foresters and Diagnosticians by Optimizing A Molecular Toolkit to Provide Rapid Diagnosis of Thousand Cankers Disease, University of Tennessee2. Growing a National Tribal Forestry Workforce, Ecotrust, 3. Deploying Sensors on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for Community Forest Inventory and Analysis, University of Colorado4. National Assessment of Air Temperature Effects of Trees on Human Health and Comfort, RTI International

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Through annual report mail outs to State Urban Forestry contacts, mailing list, and at Grants.gov.